

**CONFIDENTIAL****OPERATIONS GROUP FILE B***M.C. - General**[Signature]*

23 June 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Program and Budget, PRS/DDS&amp;T

FROM:

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Planning Officer/Resource Allocation,  
E&PS/FBIS

SUBJECT: Muslim World Obligations

REFERENCE: Your 19 June Telephone Request to C/E&amp;PS

1. Based on the progress we have made thus far in getting our planned Muslim World activities under way, we are confident that we will obligate the entire  appropriation by the end of FY 1980 and possibly will have some unfunded requirements. Following is a breakdown by major expense areas of 1) our current obligations as reflected in the Agency FRS on 13 June 1980 and 2) obligations which are not yet in the FRS plus those we expect to incur by the end of the fiscal year.

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- Muslim World obligations in FRS.....\$

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In looking at this obligation rate several important factors must be kept in mind: 1) We have had this appropriation for less than three months, 2) a number of sizable obligations simply have not yet found their way into the FRS and 3) two expensive items are not scheduled to be obligated until the last quarter of the fiscal year. In fact, when the  cost of those two projects is subtracted from the , we show an obligation rate of 30 percent in the FRS.

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- Communications and electronics equipment and supplies.....\$

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Our Engineering Design and Support Staff has indicated that this is the minimum additional amount that will be obligated for communications and electronics equipment by the end of the fiscal year in connection with Muslim World projects.

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It is quite likely, in fact, that actual requirements will run even higher, particularly with regard to procurement of the equipment for the Soviet satellite monitoring operation.

- JPRS contract translators, satellite contract, other contracts....\$

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We estimate that in addition to the known cost of the contract for the facsimile system design [redacted], we will obligate a minimum of [redacted] for non-government contracts, most of which will go to pay JPRS contract translators. In addition to those individuals who are put on contract to translate Muslim World material selected by staff language officers, several potential staff officers are working for JPRS on contract pending completion of their pre-EOD processing. JPRS has been quite successful in its efforts to recruit translators with the required languages and expects to reach full capability in all Muslim World languages before the end of the fiscal year.

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- Personal services costs for staff and indigenous employees.....\$

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Despite the difficulty in finding and hiring suitably qualified candidates for broadcast monitoring and staff language positions, we have been relatively successful in the extensive recruiting campaigns which we undertook here and abroad immediately upon receipt of the appropriation. A number of monitor candidates for Gulf Bureau presently are in various stages of processing and we could have almost all of Gulf Bureau's 14 monitor positions filled by the end of the fiscal year, with several new monitors expected to begin duty very shortly. And while even under the best of circumstances the recruiting and processing for employment of staff linguists is in some ways an even more difficult and time consuming affair, we also have been quite successful in that area. Six individuals have been selected to fill newly authorized staff language positions, two of whom are already on duty and two of whom are working on contract for JPRS pending their EOD. The figure quoted for anticipated personal services costs could change substantially for a number of reasons, the most likely of which are: the possibility that individuals in process will become impatient and drop out to take another job (hence the reason for having them sign a JPRS contract, if possible), the difficulty of estimating actual EOD dates and the impossibility of knowing when and how many suitable candidates may turn up. Estimating personal services costs is also complicated by the as yet undetermined role which the BBC will play. We are negotiating with the BBC to assume responsibility for hiring

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the monitors to process the material monitored in Islamabad, in which case the funds needed to reimburse the BBC for its services would be moved from SOC 1152 to SOC 2540. If, for instance, we have to sign a one-year contract for those services, our needs for FY 1980 could be considerably greater than the above figure indicates.

- TDY costs and PCS travel and transportation costs.....\$

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These estimates are based on planned reception surveys, bureau training for new officers hired to fill Muslim World slots and PCS moves to the field to fill the new positions. Costs in this area, too, could run considerably higher than the cited amount in the event of essential travel to conduct reception surveys and to install and test equipment.

- Language training for staff language officers.....\$

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Due to the difficulty in recruiting personnel with a knowledge of specific Muslim World languages, several staff language officers are being sent to universities to study those languages.

- Paper and other supplies for JPRS.....\$

The increased emphasis on the Muslim World has substantially increased JPRS' publication load and as additional language officers are hired the amount of material published by JPRS continues to increase.

- MIDAS contract.....\$

The funds for MIDAS will be obligated in the fourth quarter. Progress toward established milestones is right on schedule; the RfP was released ahead of schedule and the expectation is that the contract will be awarded even before the scheduled date.

- Islamabad-Caversham circuits and tails.....\$

Progress toward obligating these funds took a giant leap forward on 18 June when a Pakistani Government official told the Ambassador that the Government had no objection to the FBIS operation, thus opening the way for full-scale action

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toward this goal. The FBIS project engineer for the Islamabad operation has already visited the Embassy and the first steps have been taken toward procuring the tails for the circuits. We are moving full speed ahead on the Islamabad project.

- Alexandria-Nicosia circuit.....\$  25X1

If we can establish a remote-controlled monitoring facility on Cyprus, as we prefer to do, the above figure could be a little lower. But if we end up in Alexandria, our alternate choice, we will require at least the above-cited amount to acquire the necessary commercial voice circuit. We expect an affirmative response soon on our request to conduct tests at the Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus; in the meantime, we are conducting a reception survey in Alexandria and explaining our plans to Embassy and Station officers so we can move forward there immediately if we do not get the necessary approvals for Cyprus.

2. The total of the above figures is  As I have indicated in a number of places, it appears that we will be underfunded if all of our planned activities develop on schedule in this fiscal year. A very good example of unanticipated, and therefore unfunded, requirements is the news received from the Ambassador in Islamabad along with his message to go ahead. He is now proposing to rent, at FBIS expense, separate premises for our installation since there is very little available space in the Embassy and since the Pakistanis apparently did not object when it was hinted that FBIS might have to be housed in separate quarters. The Ambassador also recommended acquisition of an official vehicle, another unfunded item. This is typical of the unanticipated expenses which we can expect to encounter as our various projects develop throughout the remainder of FY 1980 and in FY 1981. 25X1

3. Considering the likelihood that we will be faced with other unfunded requirements in FY 1980, we would hope to keep open as long as possible the option of requesting the remaining \$178K of the Congressional Muslim World appropriation. We would not want to request those funds unless we were quite sure that we would need them, a determination we probably will not be able to make until somewhat nearer the end of the fiscal year. However, we would find it reassuring to receive some indication now that that money would be available at a later date if needed.

4. Also, with regard to the matter of unfunded requirements, we feel compelled to once again express our concern about the serious negative impact the \$1 million cut by CMB in our FY 1981 Muslim World funds could have on activities which we expect to have well under way in FY 1981.

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5. All portions of this memorandum are classified CONFIDENTIAL.



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